Obihiro Pioneer

Issue 7 November 2011

5th Multicultural Festival (第5回国際文化祭)



Come down to the Tokachi International Relations Center on the 26th of November for an exciting celebration of culture and camaraderie at the 5th Multicultural Festival! This year's event will feature an international fair alongside the stage performances. At the international fair, you can learn about the different countries of the world from the various panel exhibits, or have fun at the various activity corners. You can also take home a piece of culture, as international residents will be selling their country's souvenirs, crafts, and other goods.

Of course, there will be the customary stage event, where you can watch traditional dance, martial arts, and musical performances from the different countries of the world. You can also behold the



Event Details

Date: 11/26 (Sat)

Time: International Fair 13:00-18:00 Stage Event 16:00-18:00

Location: Tokachi International Relations

Center (West 20, South 6)

Price: Free!

Organized By: The Committee for the

Improvement of the City

For more info: Contact Hector at (080)

3295-4875 or email

tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp



beautiful traditional costumes at the fashion show finale. This year, you will be able to vote for your favorite performance, with the most popular groups receiving a prize. There will also be a prize raffle for those who participate in the voting, so make sure to cast your vote!

We are still looking for people who can sell their country's goods and perform at the stage event. This will be a great opportunity to share your culture and be a part of this cool celebration. If you are interested, please contact us by Saturday, November 19. We look forward to your support and participation!

第5回国際文化祭は11月26日(土)に森の交流館・十勝で開催いたします。今回は、午後 1時から、国際フェアで世界各国を紹介する展示や色々なアクティビティコーナーを行いま す。在住外国人による手作り雑貨、加工食品等の販売もあります。また、午後4時から、ス テージイベントで外国の伝統踊りや合唱の披露、伝統楽器の演奏等、民族衣装のファッショ ンショーを楽しめます。入場料は無料ですので、ぜひお越しください。お問い合わせは、森の 交流館・十勝にご連絡ください。電話:0155-34-0122 メール:tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp

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Events in Tokachi and Obihiro













When What		Where/Contact
11/9 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	Mini-Volley (ミニバレー): Held every 2nd Wednesday of the month. A simple sport to play and enjoy!	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
11/12 (Sat) 19:00-21:00	28th International Talk (第28回インターナショナル・トーク): This month's talk will be about the South American country of Paraguay. Please register by phone or email.	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
11/13 (Sun) 9:00-14:00	Introduction to Japanese Food Culture (日本食文化紹介講座): We will go on a tour of the Needs cheese factory followed by a Japanese food feast at TIRC. Open to international residents only. Please register by phone or email.	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
11/19 (Sat)	2nd Taiki People's Product Thanksgiving (第2回大樹町民物産感謝祭)	道の駅コスモール大樹(大樹) Michi no Eki Kosu Mall (Taiki) 0155-86-2114
11/20 (Sun) 10:00-14:30	Winter Tea Ceremony (冬の茶会): Come and experience the traditional Japanese way of serving tea. There will be 4 sessions for the tea ceremony, and 2 sessions for tea-serving etiquette. Please sign up by November 18 (Friday).	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
11/22 (Tues)	14th Autumn Gourmet and Beaujolais Evening (第14回秋のグルメとボジョレーヌーボーのタベ)	ホテル東急イン帯広 Hotel Tokyu Inn Obihiro 0155-25-1756
11/23 (Wed)	30th Nakasatsunai Harvest Festival (第30回中札内村収穫感謝祭)	中札内村民体育館(中札内) Nakasatsunai Public Gymnasium 0155-67-2211
11/23 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	Tokachi Amigos Mini-Volleyball (とかちアミーゴスミニバレー): Let's meet friends from all over the world while enjoying a fun and easy sport! Fee: 100 yen	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center TEL 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
11/26 (Sat) 13:00-18:00	5th Multicultural Festival (第5回国際文化祭): Come and experience the different cultures of the world! From 1 PM, there will be country exhibits and a flea market at the international fair. From 4 PM, there will be a stage event with cultural performances and a fashion show.	森の交流館・十勝 Tokachi International Relations Center TEL 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp

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Chef Hector's Cuisine Corner (ヘクター調理人の料理コーナー)



November in Hokkaido means that the long, dreaded winter is just around the corner. Many people are already starting to fire up their home heaters and change their cars to winter tyres. For many of the local wildlife, this is the time for pre-hibernation feeding. Though we humans don't hibernate, we'd like to introduce to you a fun food experience perfect for the pre-winter season.



One of the famous food products of Tokachi is cheese, and there are many cheese factories all over the region. A popular one is the NEEDS cheese factory, located in the town of Makubetsu to the southeast of Obihiro. Here they have a wide range of cheeses for sale, from mozzarella to caciocavallo

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to cream cheese. You can also watch how they make the cheese or even try making cheese on your own.

On Sunday, November 13, we are holding the annual Introduction to Japanese Food Culture event. This time, we will ride a bus to the NEEDS cheese factory, where we you can try your hand at making mozzarella cheese. You can then enjoy the cheese you made with tomatoes and basil as a tasty caprese salad.



But that's not all. After the cheese factory tour, we will go back to the Tokachi International Relations Center, where the ladies' volunteer group Harunire no Kai will be making some delicious Japanese recipes made from local ingredients for everyone to enjoy. You can also try out the traditional mochitsuki or rice pounding. So come join us for a day of food and fun!

Event Details
Date: 11/13 (Sun)

Time: Cheese Factory Tour 9:00-12:00
Japanese food at TIRC 12:00-14:00

Fee: 500 yen (for cheese factory tour)

Open to international residents only. To sign up, please contact TIRC Coordinator Hisashi Ono at ono.tirc@gmail.com

Tor Sale, from mozzarella to caciocavallo ono.tirc@gmail.com

11月13日(日曜日)に「日本食文化紹介講座」を開催いたします。今回は、幕別町にある
NEEDSチーズ工房でチーズ作り体験を行います。チーズ工房巡りの後、森の交流館・十勝で
「ハルニレの会」が地元食材を使用した料理の試食、餅つき体験などを行います。参加料は
500円で、参加対象は在住外国人となります。多くの皆さんのご参加をお待ちしております。申

し込みは、森の交流館・十勝(担当:小野)にご連絡ください。電話:0155-34-0122 メール:



Join us for a tour of the NEEDS cheese factory and some great Japanese food afterwards.

Movies At Cinema Taiyo, in Obihiro

(Nishi 3, Minami 11) Tel: (0155) 20-1525

Times and movies are subject to change! (for space reasons not all movies are listed) To confirm, call or check online at: http://www.taiyogroup.jp/cinema/theater/_obihiro/movie.shtml

Title	Language	Dates
Fast & Furious 5	English	Ends 4th
Rise of the Planet of the Apes	English	Ends 25th
Captian America: The First Avenger	English	Ends 25th
Cowboys and Aliens	English	All Month
The Three Musketeers	English	All Month
Moneyball	English	Starts 11th
Immortals	English	Starts 11th

Winter is Here (冬が来ました)

It's that time of year again, when everything freezes and snow piles up on top of your car overnight so you're late for work the next day, winter. This year winter seems to have come a bit early as I had to turn my heater on at the start of October, and it's already gone below freezing overnight. That means it's time to prepare yourself for even colder temperatures and protect your house or apartment from issues that can arise during these colder months.

One thing that you should look out for now that you have inevitably turned on your heater is carbon monoxide. If you are using a kerosene heater or some other type of heater which produces deadly gases, make sure that it is properly ventilated to let gases escape. If you find yourself feeling sleepy, dizzy or sick make sure that it isn't being caused by your heater. Check with your landlord to make sure you understand how to operate your heater and any safety precautions that are necessary.

When you leave your house during the winter you will want to make sure your pipes don't freeze. This is especially true if you live in an older place that doesn't have sufficient insulation. If you are going to be gone for a day, most places will be fine without doing anything (though you should check with your landlord or whoever the previous tenant was). If you're going to be gone for more than a day or live some place with exceptionally bad plumbing/insulation you'll need to drain your pipes. This involves turning off your water at the main source and then draining all of your plumbing by turning on all of your facets to let the water out. If you neglect to do this you might find yourself with burst pipes and a very large repair bill. Make sure you have

your landlord explain how to drain your pipes so you don't miss any thing that might be specific to your residence.

Another thing to be cautious of is closing off rooms that you don't want to heat to save money. Make sure there is no plumbing running through any rooms that you close off or you might find a rather expensive surprise when things get cold enough for the pipes to freeze.

Anyone from a colder climate is probably already prepared, but for those of you who are new to the area and are from warmer areas, you'll want to invest in a good winter coat as temperatures can drop below –20c, and boots wouldn't be a bad idea either. You may also want to invest in some spikes for your shoes/boots. Removable spikes can be purchased at various stores in Obihiro and can be slipped on and off your shoes with relative ease. If you're from the USA you'll be surprised to learn that sidewalks in Obihiro are for the most part not cleaned during the winter. Salt is almost completely unheard of here so you'll be walking down ice paths for most of the winter, and so it is a good idea to protect yourself from falls.

If you drive, you need to get winter tires. While I don't think there is a law stating that you need to have them, if you get into an accident without them you will almost assuredly not receive any help from your insurance company (check with your insurance company to make sure), and of course it's just a good idea to have tires that allow you to drive around on the ice rink that Hokkaido roads turn into in the winter months.

Stay warm and stay safe through these winter months.

冷たい風が吹き始め冬の気配を感じ季節となりました。帯広・十勝の冬は寒さが厳しいので、冬に備えて対策を講じましょう。気温は一20度以下に下がることもあり、長時間、家を空ける時は水道凍結に気をつけなければなりません。出かける前には必ず水を抜きましょう。そして、風邪をひかないように健康管理には十分気をつけましょう。特に熱帯地域から帯広に来た方は防寒服を用意しましょう。自家用車のタイヤを雪が降る前にスタッドレスタイヤへ交換しましょう。

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Obihiro Pioneer can be found at the following locations:

Obihiro City Hall, Tokachi International Relations Center, Obihiro University International Center, Obihiro Tourism and Convention Center inside the Obihiro JR Station, Obihiro Public Library, Cinema Taiyo, Joy English Academy and online at www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp (click on "Information for Foreigners")

"Obihiro Pioneer" Is a newsletter published monthly by the Obihiro International and Domestic Relations Section for residents of the Tokachi District and related parties. The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily represent the official views or opinions of the International and Domestic Relations Section or the City of Obihiro. Questions? Tel (0155) 65-4133 or send e-mail to the Editing Team at international@city.obihiro.hokkaido,jp.